

U. S. NAVY AIRCRAFT TO BOMB A WARSHIP

To-Night's Weather—RAIN, WARMER.

To-Morrow's Weather—RAIN, COLDER.

THE EVENING WORLD
WALL STREET
FINAL EDITION

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"Circulation Books Open to All."



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PRICE THREE CENTS

PRICE PLOT IN IRON AND COAL IS CHARGED

SURPLUS 'SUB' ELECTRICITY WOULD END FARE RAISE TALK, BUT Hylan Silent 3 Years

Shonts, in an Unpublished Interview for The Evening World in 1918, Went Thoroughly Into Fare Increase and Necessity of Considering Sale of Power as a Dovetailing Proposition.

By Sophie Irene Loeb.

The question is asked by Speaker Machold of the State Assembly, "Why should there be any such 'preferential' contract in favor of the company and at the city's expense?"

The answer to this question was furnished by the late Theodore Shonts, President of the Interborough, in a significant memorandum which I made immediately following a conversation with him on Dec. 23, 1918, which is printed for the first time.

I had sought an interview with Mr. Shonts to discuss the possibility of the city selling electric power from the subway power plants as a potential source of revenue of remarkable magnitude, the city becoming a partner in the subways in January, 1919.

Mr. Shonts insisted that the problem of the city selling electricity and the rates on the subways dovetailed, and that if the power in the city owned subways were sold to manufacturers and consumers that the revenue thus derived would not only reduce the city's debt but would help pay the "preferentials" required by the Interborough in the dual subway contract, to say nothing of the enormous saving to consumers of electricity.

He urged The Evening World to help rouse public opinion toward this end, and at that time this newspaper set forth the facts.

Mr. Shonts pointed out to me how over a billion kilowatts surplus of electricity annually are available in the new partnership proposition.

He showed me how for years the Interborough Railroad has built up the largest potential electric power producing machinery in the world, in which the city is now a partner. MORE THAN ALL PUBLIC UTILITIES COMBINED.

This available billion kilowatts amounts to more production than all the electric power produced by all public utilities under the supervision of the Public Service Commission, including the Edison Companies. Efforts have been made from time to time by private corporations to purchase this surplus power from the Interborough Company. This surplus, Mr. Shonts told me, cost approximately 1 1/2 cent at the most. A 4-cent kilowatt hour price to

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GOES WITH BROKEN LEGS TO BURY WIFE

Shock From Accident to Husband Had Killed Mrs. Richardson of Passaic.

BUFAFO, N. Y., Feb. 7.—With both legs broken near the ankles, Mahlon M. Richardson of Passaic, N. J., came by train from Passaic to Batavia yesterday with the body of his wife. She had died from the shock when her husband was carried into the house after an accident in Passaic on Wednesday. Mr. Richardson went to St. Joseph's Church, where the funeral services were held, and then to the cemetery. He was hurt when a fourteen-foot ladder, on which he was standing, repairing a bolt, slipped, letting him fall to a concrete floor.

HUBBY WITH 10 MEN IN RAID FOR MAID WHO WAS HIS BRIDE

Albion Family of Scarsdale, With Whom She Lived, Fought Hard to Retain Her.

BATTLED HALF AN HOUR.

Girl Is Whisked Away as Marauders Fire a Parting Volley of Shots.

A party of armed men, estimated to number about fifteen, forcibly carried away Anna King, a servant and companion, from the home of Louis Albion in Scarsdale, N. Y., shortly before midnight last night and bore her off in a motor car. But before they succeeded in taking her, seven of the men had a rough and tumble fight with the members of the Albion family in which shots were exchanged, but no one hurt beyond a few cuts and bruises.

One of the abducting party, apparently the leader of the gang, claimed that Anna King was his wife and for that reason he had come for her. He said his name was Walter Joseph. At any rate, when he ordered Anna to get her hat and coat and "come along," she obeyed without question. Now the Scarsdale and White Plains police are looking for her with, they admit, little chance of finding her.

Anna, who is nineteen years old, was in the employ of the Albions for three years prior to last July. Her parents, known to the Albions, were named Dremeyer and lived at 1515th Street and Cortlandt Avenue, the Bronx. But in July Anna left her employment and was known to her whereabouts was known to the Albions until this December, when word came from the police of Albion that she was being detained by them as a "suspicious person." In response to this notice Mr. Albion wrote that if the police did not mind he would take her back in his household. So in a day or two he sent the money for her railroad fare, and early in January she was again established in the Albion home, which is at Sprague Avenue and Johnson Street.

While Anna was in the kitchen, near midnight, three men came to the front door, and in reply to the

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NATION ASKED U. S. TO CANCEL LOANS

Secretary Houston Admits It to Senate, but Won't Say Which One.

WASHINGTON, Feb. 7.—Secretary Houston disclosed in the Senate Judiciary Committee to-day that "one nation" had requested the United States to cancel its war loan to that power. "What nation?" demanded Senator Reed, Democrat, Missouri. "I prefer not to say," Mr. Houston replied.

Recently published remarks of J. Austen Chamberlain, British Chancellor of Exchequer, that such a proposal had been made to the United States and refused, prompted the statement that drew Mr. Houston's remark.

Assistant Secretary Kelley of the Treasury, in charge of foreign loans, stated that Russian Embassy officials had obtained \$200,000 early in 1920. He added that the Russians had received \$187,000,000 between July and November, 1917, "and nothing since then" with exception of the \$200,000 item. "Was any money used to support the Bukhmeteff Embassy?" asked Senator Reed. "The Treasury ruled that the Embassy was entitled to be maintained out of the balance, which was in the National City Bank," Mr. Kelley replied.

NEW NEGOTIATIONS FOR CONCESSIONS TO PACIFY IRELAND

Hope Ulster Will Persuade South to Accept and Work Under Partition.

MAY FREE PRISONERS.

Reputed Full Fiscal Autonomy to Both Sections Is to Be Offered.

DUBLIN, Feb. 7.—Belief is growing that an important development may come to light when Parliament reconvenes, looking to a settlement with Southern Ireland.

According to one report, the Government is trying to bring the Ulster leaders into line with a well formulated scheme to persuade the South to accept the partition provided for in the Home Rule Act and work under it. This version of the reputed plans has it that the price to be offered for acceptance is a grant of full fiscal autonomy to both sections of Ireland. This would be coupled, it is said, so far as the South is concerned, with an offer to release the political prisoners and grant amnesty to Irish Republicans generally, including members of the Irish Republican Army, and even men "on the run."

Negotiations to this end are reported to be now proceeding between Mr. Lloyd George, and Sir Edward Carson, Ulster leader in the British Parliament. Concessions are said to be contemplated with regard to the amount of taxes payable to England under the new act.

It is reported from Belfast that one constable was killed and two others wounded by the explosion of a bomb thrown at them while they were on duty at Warrenpoint, near Dundalk, last night.

The formation of town guards is being enforced in the martial law area of West Cork by Gen. Strickland. Leading townspeople are being called on to form guards voluntarily and take the responsibility for all attacks or ambushes within a mile of the town.

Threats are made that if not voluntarily joined men will be conscripted between the ages of seventeen and forty-five for such services. Refusal will be regarded as an offense. The idea is the guards should report all suspicious movements and preparations for ambushes to the military or police, but the popular inclination is to reject such work as being spy work and to take the consequences of such refusal.

Law and Order Party Reported Active in Ireland.

LONDON, Feb. 7.—The Sunday Telegram, owned by Horatio W. Bottomley, editor of John Bull, asserts the existence of a third party in Ireland "concerning itself with executing justice, according to its own views, on any persons who commit alleged crimes and escape punishment."

The newspaper says the party is

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IRISH COMMANDER COLLINS, SHOT DEAD

Leader First Reported as Wounded, Now Announced as Having Been Killed.

DUBLIN, Feb. 7 (Associated Press).—Michael Collins, Adjutant General of the Irish Republican Army, was killed in the ambush at Burtulla last week, in which it was previously reported he had been wounded, according to the police authorities here. Collins, the police declare, was shot dead while giving instructions to his men in carrying out the ambush attack.

THE WORLD TRAVEL BUREAU.

WAR CASUALTIES INCREASING 5,000 A MONTH IN U. S.

American Legion to Ask \$85,000,000 for Adequate Hospital Facilities.

WASHINGTON, Feb. 7. AMERICAN casualties of the World War are increasing 5,000 per month. It was announced to-day to the National Executive Committee of the American Legion meeting here.

Mental breakdowns and tuberculosis resulting from gas and exposure are putting 5,000 "ex-soldiers" in hospitals monthly to 3,900 discharged. To meet this condition the committee will demand a Congressional appropriation of \$85,000,000 to provide adequate hospital facilities.

The House to-day unanimously passed a bill authorizing the construction of five hospitals for disabled war veterans at an estimated cost of \$12,500,000.

The bill also authorizes the Secretary of the Treasury to lease, subject to appropriation by Congress, the proposed \$3,000,000 hospital to be built by the State of New York.

UNTERMYER TO QUIT IF INQUIRY POWERS ARE TO BE LIMITED

In Albany to Fight for Right to Investigate Banks and Insurance Co.'s.

(Special Dispatch to The Evening World.)

ALBANY, Feb. 7.—Samuel Untermyer, counsel to the Lockwood committee, came to Albany to-day to for the fight to have the powers of the committee broadened to enable it to go into an investigation of banks and life insurance companies as to what extent their refusal to advance loans to home owners and builders has affected the housing situation in New York City.

Mr. Untermyer, it is said, came here with the ultimatum that if the resolution is not adopted to-morrow, when it comes up for passage, in its original form, which gives the Lockwood Committee practically unlimited powers, including power to grant immunity to witnesses, he will resign as counsel to the committee. He was full of fight when he got off the train and started for the capital.

Senator Lockwood, Senator Lusk, Chairman of the Committee which has the amended resolution in hand, and other legislative leaders met Mr. Untermyer in Senator Lusk's office at noon. The arrival of Mr. Untermyer appeared to surprise some of the leaders.

Despite assertions by some members of the Lockwood Committee that the powers granted by the amended resolution, which actually does not give the committee much more latitude than it was granted when it was selected by the last Legislature, are sufficient to enable Mr. Untermyer to inquire as far as he likes into the affairs of banks and insurance companies, the militant counsel to the committee refuses to adopt that point of view. The developments of to-day's meeting promise to be sensational.

NO PEACE OFFER SENT.

Washington Denies the Report Circulated in Berlin.

WASHINGTON, Feb. 7.—Loring Drexel, American High Commissioner to Germany, is without authority to discuss the question of peace with Germany, State Department officials said to-day in commenting on dispatches that the German Government had made such a proposal to him. No communication regarding any such proposal has been received from Mr. Drexel.

IRON AND COAL MEN IN PLOT TO KEEP UP PRICES, IS CHARGE

Unwarranted Profits by Middlemen Also Factor, Says Comptroller Williams.

BANKS MADE 17 TO 55 PC.

Of \$13,764,000,000 Loaned by Banks, Farmers Got Fourteen Per Cent.

WASHINGTON, Feb. 7.—Attempts by iron, steel and coal men to maintain excessive prices and unwarranted profits by middlemen were charged by John Skeelin Williams, Comptroller of the Currency, in his annual report to-day.

These practices, Mr. Williams added, constitute a tax on the consumer and are delaying a return to normal prices and conditions.

"By closing down mills and mines," Mr. Williams said, "the output of steel and iron was reduced approximately one-fourth in the year following the armistice in order that manufacturers and miners might obtain, because of insistent and pre-emptory demands, the exorbitant profits realized during the war rather than the moderate profits they would have had to accept if a maximum output had been maintained. While the profits of steel manufacturers and coal operators were swollen, the country became poorer from the lack of production brought about by the unnecessary closing down of mills and mines and the unnecessary idleness of labor."

The country is now in many respects on a sounder basis, economically, than it has been for years, he declared. Deflation, obviously inevitable a year ago, has come, he added, and prices of many basic commodities and raw materials have returned to pre-war levels or below.

"It now remains for the middleman," the Comptroller added, "to adjust his profits to the new prices before the ultimate consumer will receive the benefit of the reduced cost of living." Labor, however, Mr. Williams said, must not determine whether a shut-down and idleness are preferred to a lower wage scale which takes into consideration the lower living charges. Mills and factories cannot operate unless they can turn out commodities at prices the public can afford to pay, he asserted, and it is better for the manufacturers to operate and produce goods at cost or at a very narrow margin of profit than to close down entirely. Participation by labor with capital in the profits he suggested as the only way to restore business.

"When conditions abroad become more settled or stabilized," Comptroller Williams declared in a summary of the present outlook, "and when at home much needed adjustments are effected in the costs to the consumer of steel and iron products, which are still quoted about twice their pre-war prices, and when coal, for which the

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HOUSING SURVEY IN CITY BEGINS

Sanitary Bureau Inspectors to Ascertain if Crowding in Sleeping Quarters Is Health Menace.

Dr. Royal S. Copeland, Health Commissioner, to-day announced that fifty inspectors of the Sanitary Bureau began a house-to-house investigation of different sections of the city for the purpose of ascertaining whether a housing shortage existed, and if so, whether crowding or many sleeping persons in few rooms proved a menace to health. Dr. Copeland said that many persons, obviously those who owned property, maintained that "there was no housing shortage."

AMERICA TO STAGE BATTLE BETWEEN BOMBING AIRCRAFT AND A POWERFUL WARSHIP

Admiral Coontz Announces to the House Naval Committee That a Former German Craft Will Probably Be Used In the Test.

WASHINGTON, Feb. 7.—A large warship, possibly a former German craft, is to be bombed by naval aviators within ninety days to test the value of aircraft against major surface vessels, Admiral Coontz, Chief of Naval Operations, announced to-day before the House Naval Committee.

Admiral Coontz said the vessel that would be used had been recently subjected to somewhat similar tests with dummy bombs while at anchor in Chesapeake Bay.

Several ships of the German navy, including destroyers and one large cruiser, which were turned over to the United States, are available for such a test.

Admiral Coontz reiterated his belief that the battleship was still the paramount unit of the fleet and declared that the advocates of aircraft in naval warfare "have not proved their case."

He asked the committee to authorize two airplane carriers with a speed of from 32 to 35 knots, capable of transporting at least eighty planes each and narrow enough to go through the Panama Canal, one to be stationed in each ocean.

Rear Admiral W. Taylor, Chief Naval Constructor, told the committee the carriers would cost from \$21,000,000 to \$28,000,000 each. It would be difficult to build them under thirty months, he said.

Admiral Coontz advised against halting work on the major ships of the 1916 programme.

"We have waited all our lives for a navy of importance and equality," he declared. "Now when realization seems at hand this propaganda comes to prevent it. Don't stop any part of the 1916 building as far as the big ships are concerned. We can do without the twelve destroyers, six sea going submarines and one transport already authorized but not contracted for, if necessary."

DARE BY DANIELS TO ARMY AIRMAN

Says He Would Be Willing to Navigate Craft Bombed by Mitchell.

WASHINGTON, Feb. 7.—A conditional challenge for an airplane-battleship duel with Brig. Gen. Mitchell, Chief of Army Air Operations, piloting the bomber, and Secretary Daniels navigating the warship, was issued by Mr. Daniels to-day, in commenting on the controversy raised by Gen. Mitchell's assertion that aircraft have made dreadnaughts worthless.

"If 'Admiral' Mitchell can't drop bombs from the air more effectively than he can explode them in committee meetings," Secretary Daniels said, "I would take a chance on maneuvering a battleship myself while he tried out his pet plan."

DEMANDS FACTS OF BIG B. R. T. LOAN

Volk Resolution Asks for All Papers in Connection With \$16,000,000 Advance.

WASHINGTON, Feb. 7.—A resolution calling upon the Secretary of the Treasury to submit to the House all the papers and correspondence regarding the loan of \$16,000,000 to the Brooklyn Rapid Transit Company by the War Finance Corporation about two years ago was introduced by Representative Volk of New York.

ST. PIERRE, Miquelon, Feb. 7.—The United States Shipping Board steamer Bataan stranded in the harbor here during a northeast gale to-day and probably will be a total loss. Her crew are safe.

The Bataan was on her way from St. Johns, N. F., for Norfolk in tow. She was backing badly when she put in here Jan. 26.